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### **STATEMENT REGARDING NORA AUNOR**

The recent reports that Ms. Nora Aunor, also known as Nora Villamayor, was convicted of a crime in the United States are patently false.

Over nine (9) years ago, Ms. Aunor was charged with alleged possession of a controlled substance found in a carry-on luggage in her name at the Los Angeles International Airport. At that time, Ms. Aunor was traveling with an entourage who packed, handled and carried her luggage. When the luggage was randomly selected for inspection and contraband was allegedly found inside a man's athletic shoe, her entourage fled, leaving her, literally, holding the bag. She was booked and then promptly released on a bond secured by this firm.

With the advice and counsel of this firm, Ms. Aunor was persuaded to consider several civil diversion options available under California Penal Code Section 1000 et seq. Civil diversion offers a way for eligible individuals to resolve a case, outside the court setting, provided certain conditions are met. If the conditions are satisfied, no conviction occurs, and the case is simply dismissed. Under these programs, when a case is dismissed, the arrest shall be deemed to have never occurred. In fact, the participant may indicate, in response to any question, that he or she was not arrested. Typically, these files are sealed upon dismissal.

Ms. Aunor enrolled in two civil diversion programs with certain conditions tailored to accommodate her specific situation. Unlike other participants, she was never in any drug detoxification or residential treatment program. She was not subjected to medical treatment. She was allowed to travel. Ms. Aunor was enrolled in a non-residential program under the auspices of a non-profit foundation catering to those in the arts, media and entertainment. She underwent intensive counseling and education sessions that provided her with problem solving and coping skills. As a result of these counseling sessions, she finally experienced the therapeutic benefits of talk therapy.

Ms. Aunor underwent and passed more than 40 random drug tests, administered by numerous court-approved laboratory facilities, in various locations in the United States. At no time were drugs ever detected in her system. She was not required to perform